

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for ordering multimedia content, comprising the steps of:

- segmenting the multimedia content to extract ~~objects~~ video object planes;
- extracting and associating features of the ~~objects~~ video object planes to produce content entities, wherein the content entities are recursive data structures comprising features, relations, directed acyclic graphs and containment sets;
- coding the content entities to produce directed acyclic graphs of the content entities, each directed acyclic graph representing a particular interpretation of the multimedia content;
- measuring high-level attributes of each content entity;
- assigning the measured high-level attributes to each corresponding content entity in the directed acyclic graphs to order the content entities of the multimedia content; and
- comparing the ordered content entities in a plurality of the directed acyclic graphs to determine similar interpretations of the multimedia content.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes include intensity attributes.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes include direction attributes.

- 1 4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured
2 attributes include spatial attributes and the order is spatial.
- 1 5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured
2 attributes include temporal attributes and the order is temporal.
- 1 6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes are
2 arranged in an increasing rank order.
- 1 7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the measured attributes are
2 arranged in an decreasing rank order.
- 1 8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step
2 of:
3 traversing the multimedia content according to the directed acyclic
4 graph and the measured attributes assigned to the content entities.
- 1 9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step
2 of:
3 summarizing the multimedia content according to the directed acyclic
4 graph and the measured attributes assigned to the content entities.
- 1 10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the multimedia content is a
2 three dimensional video sequence.

3 11. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein nodes of the directed acyclic
4 graphs represent the content entities and edges represent breaks in the
5 segmentation, and the measured attributes are associated with the
6 corresponding edges.

1 12. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein at least one secondary content
2 entity is associated with a particular content entity, and wherein the
3 secondary content entity is selected during the traversing.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein a summary of the multimedia
2 is a selected permutation of the content entities according to the associated
3 ranks.